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Applicant(s): Grutzmann *et al.*  
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**CERTIFICATION OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8(a)**

I hereby certify that this correspondence and any papers referred to as attached are being deposited, on the date shown below, with the United States Postal Service, with sufficient postage, as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date: JAN 23 2004

Beatriz Alviz

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**Commissioner for Patents**

**P.O. Box 1450**

**Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

**AMENDMENT**

Sir:

This is in response to the Office action dated July 24, 2003. A Petition and Fee for extending the response period three months, up to and including January 24, 2004 is enclosed. Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 22 of this paper.